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C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 000863

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PARM](#) [MARR](#) [MNUC](#) [IAEA](#) [KNNP](#) [EC](#) [IR](#)  
SUBJECT: Ecuador on Iran's Nuclear Facility and U.S. Missile Defense Policy

REF: STATE 100153; STATE 96526

CLASSIFIED BY: Heather M. Hodges, Ambassador, State, EXEC; REASON:  
1.4(D)

¶1. (C) Embassy delivered Ref A points on the existence of a covert uranium enrichment facility in Iran to the MFA Multilateral Affairs Directorate on September 25 and followed up with Multilateral Affairs Director General Lourdes Puma on October 1. Puma stated that while Ecuador did not participate in decisions by the UN Security Council (UNSC), the GOE respected the UN charter and fully complied with the UNSC resolutions. Puma reiterated the GOE's position of supporting non-proliferation and universal disarmament, as well as the NPT and Additional Protocol. She also suggested that all NPT countries be held to the same safe-guard standards. When asked whether Ecuador engages Iran with regard to compliance with UNSC resolutions, Puma said that Ecuador did not engage Iran bilaterally, but supported such conversations during meetings of the Non-Aligned Movement.

¶2. (C) Responding to our earlier delivery of Ref B points, Puma said that the efforts by the Obama administration with regard to the U.S. missile defense policy and to negotiating a reduction of nuclear arms with Russia were positive steps. Puma also said that it was a positive step for the Iranian government to announce that it would allow access to the Qom uranium facility. Puma stated that Latin America was the first zone free of nuclear weapons, and wished that other regions would follow its example.  
HODGES